GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1141
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2006
BEIJING LHASA TRAIN SERVICE .
Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Beijing−Lhasa train service started running in early July, 2006;

(b) If so, the details in this regard;

(c) Whether the Union Government has examined the security implications arising out of the operation of this train; and

(d) If so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) Yes.

(b) The railway line from Lhasa in Tibet Autonomous Region to Golmud in Qinghai province of China was formally opened on July 1, 2006. The opening of this railway line provides rail connectivity from Beijing to Lhasa and according to Chinese reports is expected to contribute to the development of the western region of China.

(c) & (d) Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.